



# THEOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME - ASIA

Dr. Samuel Moffett  
Korea

Member of TAP International

**TAP-ASIA**  
33A, Chancery Lane  
SINGAPORE 11.

## TAP-ASIA THEOLOGICAL CONSULTATION

Dates: Dec. 27-Jan. 4, 1974

Place: Morrison House

5 Hatton Road, HONGKONG. Tel: 433683

### I. PAN ASIA TEE AND PROGRAMMED INSTRUCTION CONSULTATION

Dates: Dec. 27-29, Jan. 2-3, 1974

Dec. 27: 7.00 pm Opening Service

Dec. 28: 8.00- 8.30 am Morning Devotion

8.30-12.30 TEE Reports (from each country)

4.00- 6.00 Curriculum Design for TEE

Paper by Mr. Michael Roemmele (India)

Rejoinder: Dr Ebbie Smith (Indonesia)

Chairman: Mr. N Dionson (Philippines)

7.30-9.30 The Problems of Sharing

Paper by Rev Ian McCleary (India)

Rejoinder: Rev Hugh Sprunger (Taiwan)

Chairman: Rev Daniel Ho (Hong Kong)

Dec. 29: 8.00- 8.30 am Morning Devotion

8.30-10.15 An Asian TEE Research Centre

Paper by Mr. Martin Dainton (Indonesia)

Rejoinder: Rev M Koshy (India)

Chairman: Rev James Wong (Singapore)

10.30-12.30 The Place of TAP-Asia in TEE

Paper by Dr Bong Rin Ro (Singapore)

Rejoinder: Rev V Moses (India)

Chairman: Rev Duain Vierow (Malaysia)

4.00- 6.00 The Cassette Tape Ministry

by Mr. Foster Donaldson (Singapore)

Rejoinder: Mr. V Soogaard (Thailand)

Chairman: Rev John Hitchen (New Guinea)

7.30- 9.30 Proposals and Decisions

Election of Officers

Summary of total impact of the Meeting

Dec. 30 Sunday: Day of Worship

### II. SEMINAR ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Dates: Dec. 31-Jan. 1, 1974

Suggested Papers on Theological Training (1,000-1,500 words)

1. Rev. Junichi Funaki  
(Japan)

- The Integration of the Academic, the Spiritual and the Practical in Theological Training.

2. Dr. J C Cho  
(Korea)

- The integration of the Academic, the Spiritual and the Practical in Theological Training.

3. Rev. Ian McCleary  
(India)

- Evaluation of Curricular for Extension Theological Training.

4. Rev. Isidro Gadiol  
(Philippines)

- Training of National Faculty for Theological Education.



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5. Dr. Bong Rin Ro (Singapore) - Evaluation of Curricular for Residential Theological Training.
6. Rev. D R Maitimoe (Indonesia) - The Integration of the Academic, the Spiritual and the Practical in Theological Training.
7. Dr. John Pao (Hong Kong) - An Evaluation of the Teaching Methods in Theological Education.
8. Dr. J H Taylor, Jr. (Taiwan) - Theological Training in the Context of Asian Cultures.
9. Rt. Rev. Chandu Ray (Singapore) - Indigenous Financial Support for Theological Education.
10. Prof. Bruce J Nicholls (India) - "International B.D." and Accreditation for B.Th.
11. Rev. James Wong (Singapore) - Training of the Ministry for Church Growth in Asia.

### III. THE THIRD TAP-ASIA THEOLOGICAL CONSULTATION

Theme: BIBLICAL SALVATION

Dates: Jan. 2-4, 1974

Suggested Papers on Biblical Salvation (2,000-3,000 words)

1. Dr. Han Chul-ha (Korea) - A Survey of Contemporary Discussion on 'Salvation and Humanisation'.
2. Mr. L S Choy (Malaysia) - Nature of the Gospel: Its Uniqueness and Relevance.
3. Dr. Henry Breidenthal (Thailand) - Contemporary World and the Work of Christ (Cosmic Christ and Historical Christ).
4. Rev. Nene Ramientos (Philippines) - Church's Role in Man's Progress and Development.
5. Dr. Wilson Chow (Hong Kong) - Individual and Community in the O.T. Concept of Salvation.
6. Dr. Thomas Marr (Hong Kong) - The Coming of the Kingdom of God and the Asian Cultural Revolution.
7. Mr. J Shen (Taiwan) - Dialogue and Proclamation with People of Other Faiths and No Faith.
8. Mr. P Octavianus (Indonesia) - Christian Approach to People of Other Faiths and No Faith.
9. Rev. Dr. Eui Whan Kim (Korea) - The Gospel, Indigenization and Syncretism.
10. Rev. Iqbal Nasar (Pakistan) - The Unique Christ and His Work in the Contemporary World in the Theology of Evangelism.
11. Dr. Le Hoang Phu (S. Vietnam) - The Dilemma of Man in Crisis: Sin and Suffering.
12. Rev. B D Mondal (Bangladesh) - A Theological Understanding of the Social Responsibility of the Church.
13. Dr. Susuma Uda (Japan) - Biblical Authority and Evangelism.
14. Dr. Leon Morris (Australia) - Biblical Understanding of Creation and History in the Theology of Evangelism.
15. Prof. B J Nicholls (India) - Salvation and Humanization in the Theology of Evangelism.
16. Dr. S.P Athyal (India) - Interpretation of the Bible as the Word of God for Today.

THE HONG KONG DECLARATION - A theological affirmation of Biblical salvation for the theology of evangelism for the Church of Asia.

Notice:

1. These papers will be published into a book form at the end of the consultations for wider distribution.
2. There will be a book display of programmed and other materials for TEE.
3. Since this schedule is tentative, please let me have your comments.

Yours in Christ,

*Bong Rin Ro*

Bong Rin Ro  
S. E. Asia Coordinator

October, 1973

P.S. The Weather in Dec.-Jan. in Hong Kong will be cold with the temperature of approximately 15C<sup>o</sup> or 60F<sup>o</sup>. The delegates are advised to bring sufficient clothes for the Weather.



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## THE CENTRE FOR ADVANCED THEOLOGICAL STUDIES (CATS) IN SINGAPORE (REVISED)

### Many sense a need

'Train Asians in Asia' seems to be the top priority in the planning of theologians both from the West and from Asia. Westerners are discouraged with the number of Asians who do not return to their countries after schooling in the West. Asians are concerned with increasing inflow of Western theological liberalism and syncretism into the church and sense the urgency of training their church leaders in the context of Asia life - her philosophies, religions, ethics, literature etc.

To meet this need, six different Christian organisations in Asia have separate plans for development of Advanced Theological Schools.

- 1 The N.E. Asia Theological Association (EACC) met in Tokyo on 11-14 January 1972, and gave top priority towards an establishment of a Post-graduate level theological centre in the Far East.
- 2 The Association of Theological Schools in S.E. Asia (ATSSEA) has its post-graduate programme under the S.E. Asia Graduate School of Theology (SEAGST) with 41 students at the present time. According to Dr. Kozuke Koyana, Executive secretary of ATSSEA and Dean of SEAGST, the executive members of ATSSEA met in Bangkok (Feb. 12-14, 1972), discussed the expansion of their existing post graduate programme and decided to launch out into a new doctoral programme in cooperation with Western seminaries.
- 3 Asia Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation, Dr. Ji Won Yong, is also proposing Asian Centres for Advanced Studies (ACAS) from 1974-1984 with a proposed budget of US\$1 million. The scope of this particular programme will go beyond the confines of Lutheranism as the doors will be opened to other denominations as well as those from other continents, especially Africa, Latin America and the West.
- 4 The Southern Baptist Mission has established the Advanced Graduate Baptist Theological School at the Th.M level located in different centres throughout Asia.
- 5 Chinese Evangelical leaders strengthened their ties through the PAN Asia Chinese Theological Consultation in HongKong, Jan. 10-13 1972. They are considering the establishment of three Chinese research centres respectively in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore. The Hong Kong centre will concentrate on graduate studies, research and urban ministerial training with particular concern for research and future evangelism in China, while the Taiwan centre will be for studies on Christianity and traditional culture. The Singapore centre will be geared to meet the particular needs and situations of Chinese communities in South East Asia.

### TAP-Asia

The Second Asia Evangelical Consultation on Theological Education on June 8-12 1971 considered Singapore as a possible location for the Research Centre along with three others in Korea, Hong Kong and India. In the light of the present church situation and theological trend in Asia, TAP-Asia must emphasize the Post Graduate level of theological education and research for evangelical churches. It has been a mistake of the evangelical church in the past to forget the importance of theology and to overlook the necessity of such a centre. Dr. Saphir Athyal, TAP-Asia General coordinator, requested the leaders in these countries to draw up a specific plan for their respective regional research centres. The CATS committee in Singapore proposed several suggestions.

## CATS IN SINGAPORE

Originally, the First Asia Evangelical theological Consultation on July 1970 made a resolution to establish a CATS in Singapore and appointed a Singapore committee for further investigation.

There are certain advantages and disadvantages for CATS to be established in Singapore and further elaboration on the immigration problem is necessary.

The advantages are as follows :

- 1 Singapore is located in the centre of S.E. Asia and is becoming the centre of whole Asia.
- 2 She is a multi-racial and multi-religious Republic. The major races and religions are represented in Singapore.
- 3 The English language is very widely used here along with Chinese, Malay and Indian Tamil.
- 4 The students of this Centre will be able to utilise effectively various libraries, namely, Singapore University, Nanyang University, Trinity College, Discipleship Training Centre and the National Library. Many books and periodicals, particularly on Asia are available in the English language.
- 5 The Centre for S.E. Asia Studies (sponsored by the S.E. Asia universities) and other secular areas of studies are in Singapore. There is a strong possibility that the Centre for Chinese Studies in Asia may be established at Nanyang University in Singapore, since Taiwan was ousted from U.N.
6. Economically, Singapore is comparatively more advanced than the other Asian countries. This factor enables her to draw students and staff more easily both from Asia and the West.
- 7 There are many Christian missionary organisations with their headquarters in Singapore. This will, no doubt, provide wider cooperation from them for the Centre.

However, there are some disadvantages :

- 1 The immigration restriction of the Singapore Government is still a problem.
- 2 The cultural shock for students from other Asian countries who are studying in Singapore may make it difficult for them to adjust back to their own national cultures. Furthermore, some Asians may be reluctant to return to their countries.
- 3 Expenses in Singapore are comparatively higher than other Asian countries such as Indonesia, India, the Philippines, but lower than Japan and Hong Kong.
- 4 The affiliation of the Centre with a university in Singapore is impossible; however, it can utilise the libraries of the universities. Students of the centre may be able to take courses at the universities on an informal basis.

### A way out from the immigration problem

One has to understand the Government's point of view in its policy of visas restriction against expatriates. The Government wants Singaporeans to have first preference in any job in the Republic. If there are no adequately trained Singaporeans, then expatriates may hold the positions. Since Singapore has become a strategic place and cross-roads of Asia, there has been a sharp increase of various Western missionary organisations which set up their offices in the Republic including cults like the Mormons and the Jehovah's witnesses. Many Malays have been annoyed by the bothersome house visitation. The Government of Singapore which is surrounded by Islamic nations strives to avoid any religious friction caused by external influences. In spite of the present Government immigration restriction, many in Singapore feel that CATS will be able to carry out its programme, if it takes a proper course in development. It is proposed that CATS in Singapore be set up in cooperation with the Discipleship Training Centre (DTC) and the Singapore Bible College (SBC) as this will solve the immigration restriction. DTC has four expatriate staff and SBC is allowed to have eight. Mr. Yap, principal of SBC, strongly feels that Singapore is the best location for the Chinese Post Graduate

Theological School because 75% of her population is Chinese. I recommend CATS in Singapore should serve the interests of Christians in S.E. Asia including the Chinese with a possible Chinese director for the Centre. SBC is planning to construct a three-story building, including a large library, and hopes to attract the best qualified Chinese evangelical theological lecturers. To have 5 well qualified Asian and Western staff does not seem to present an impossible immigration problem. However, there needs to be a certain amount of negotiation between CATS, DTC and SBC.

Three Phases of the development of CATS in Singapore (as suggested by Mr. Bruce Nicholls, TAP International coordinator)

- 1 We should build up the Research Centre with adequate books, periodicals and other necessary resource materials for the purpose of research. The function of the Centre would be similar to that of Tyndale Hall in Cambridge or the Christian Institute for the Study of Religion and Society in Bangalore, India. If we set up a high quality research library, particularly on the Asian studies, Church Growth, Evangelism-in-Depth and Theological Education by Extension (TEE), it will draw students not only from Asia but also from Africa, Latin America and the West. It can begin from 1973, if the necessary funds and personnel are provided.
- 2 As the number of research students grows at the Centre, CATS should bring in a teaching staff. The purpose for establishing CATS is to provide adequate indigenous faculties for theological seminaries and Bible schools in Asia and to do research in the application of Biblical theology to Asian thought, culture and worship for effective communication of the Gospel and transforming the church into being indigenous. For a faculty to accomplish this, it is essential to have at least an Asian-to-Western staff ratio of 3:2. If the Centre has the students and qualified teaching staff with an adequate library, it will be able to offer a degree on the Th.M. level. My suggested date for the second phase is 1976.
- 3 The Centre will eventually offer the Doctoral and the post doctoral programmes first on the study of the Asian Church and later on other areas of theological education. The target date for the third phase would be 1978.

Required Expenses :

The success and failure of this CATS programme depends on the cooperation of evangelical churches, theological schools and missionary organisations in both Asia and the West. The task is so large that any one church or one missionary is not able to carry out the work alone.

The expenses for the Research Centre in Singapore will amount to approximately US\$85,000 under the following categories for the first year :

Rent for the Centre	:	US\$ 15,000 per year
3 Singaporean staff	:	US\$ 7,000 per year
Office expenses	:	US\$ 3,000 per year
10 scholarships at \$1,000 per person		US\$ 10,000 per year
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Sub total		US\$ 35,000 for the 1st yr.
Plus books & periodicals		US\$ 50,000 for the 1st yr.
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TOTAL :		US\$ 85,000
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The subsequent years will cost much less, approximately US\$38,000 annually which includes rent, three staff salaries, office expenses, scholarships and 10% of the annual budget for the library. The Centre may be able to receive subsidy from the Theological Education Fund towards the expenses.

For the second phase of the programme the Centre will need more money to cover

the expenses (approximately US\$ 15,000 annually) of three Asian professors for their travel and a part of their living expenses. At least three such chairs must be endowed by churches, trusts or organisations by plating a certain sum of money in their budget each year. Evangelical professors from the West should be able to provide their own expenses through their churches and missionary organisations.

The total cost of the Centre for the first year (US\$85,000) is somewhat equivalent to the expenses which a mission organisation is spending to support 13 missionary families for a year in Singapore. Realistically, it would be very difficult to raise that large amount of money from Asia for CATS at the present time; however, our Asian churches must bear increasingly more the financial responsibility as the Centre offers benefits to their churches.

Conclusion :

Training of Asia leadership is critically urgent today in the light of the present political development in Asia. The Lord's people need to take challenges of our day very seriously and work together for the glory of GOD and for the evangelisation of the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The passage from the prophet Zechariah is very appropriate as we launch out the ministry of CATS for the Asian Church : 'Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts'. (Zech. 4:6)

Yours in Christ,



Bong Rin Ro  
TAP-Asia S.E. Asia Coordinator  
on behalf of CATS committee in Singapore  
Dr. Lawrence Chia, Bishop Chandu Ray  
6th March, 1972.

BR/ssh





Member of TAP International

# THEOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - ASIA

**TAP-ASIA**

33A, Chancery Lane  
SINGAPORE 11.

Date: 18th September, 1973 (1)

## TAP-ASIA MEMBERSHIP LIST

NO	NAME	ADDRESS
1	Adelaide Bible Institute	Mt. Brecken, Victor Harbour, S. Australia 5211, <u>AUSTRALIA</u> .
2	Allahabad Bible Seminary	20, Stanley Rd, Allahabad 2, U.P. <u>INDIA</u> .
3	Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, Inc.	P.O. Box 168, Greenhills, Rizal, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
4	Bangkok Bible College	68, Soi Susarn, Bangkok, <u>THAILAND</u> .
5	Baptist Mission Singapore	7, Jalan Pelangi, <u>SINGAPORE 10</u> .
6	Baptist Theological College of Queensland	Gold Creek Rd, Brookfield, Queensland 4069, <u>AUSTRALIA</u> .
7	Bradshaw, Malcolm	N.L.F, 1035 Virginia Drive, Fort Washington, pa. 19034, <u>USA</u> .
8	Central Taiwan Theological College	P.O. Box 74, #5, Lane 45, Sec. 2 Double Ten Rd, Taichung, <u>Taiwan 400, ROC</u> .
9	Church Growth Study Centre	5, Fort Canning Rd, <u>SINGAPORE 6</u> .
10	Diocese of Hongkong and Macao	Bishop's House, 1, Lower Albert Rd, <u>HONGKONG</u> .
11	Discipleship Training Centre	33-A, Chancery Lane, <u>SINGAPORE 11</u> .
12	Elim Bible Institute	Lima, New York 14485, <u>USA</u> .
13	Evangelical Fellowship of India	10, Jantar Mantar Rd, New Delhi 1, <u>INDIA</u> .
14	Evangelical Free Church of America	1515 E. 66th St. Minneapolis, Minn. 55423. <u>USA</u> .
15	Evangelical Free Church of Singapore and Malaysia	115, Hillcrest Road, <u>SINGAPORE 11</u>
16	FEBIAS College of Bible	Box 1831, Manila, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
17	Gujranwala Theological Seminary	P.O. Box 13, Gujranwala, <u>PAKISTAN</u> .
18	Harrison, Patricia J, (Miss)	11 Garibaldi St., Armidale, NSW 2350, <u>AUSTRALIA</u> .
19	Hadley, Buell (Rev)	Kotek Pos 20, Singkwang, Kalimantan Barat, <u>INDONESIA</u> .
20	Institute of Theological Studies (Outreach Inc.)	P.O. Box 1000, Grand Rapids, Michigan, <u>USA</u> .
21	Jamaica Theological Seminary	14, West Avenue, Kingston, Jamaica, <u>WEST INDIES</u> .
22	Jones, Gwyneth (Miss)	c/o OMF, Jl. Kartini 6/2, Jarkata, <u>INDONESIA</u> .
23	Korea Baptist Theological Seminary	111-7, Mok Dong, Taejon, <u>KOREA</u> .
24	Korea Christian Seminary	5-198 Hyochang-Dong, Yongsan-Ku, Seoul, <u>KOREA</u> .



NO	NAME	ADDRESS
25	Korea Church of God Theological Bible School	79, KongHang-Dong, Yungdung po-Ku, Seoul, <u>KOREA</u> .
26	Korea Nazarene Bible College	P.O. Box 63, Young-Deung Po, Seoul, <u>KOREA</u> .
27	Lembaga Pendidikan Theologia "ABDIEL"	Jl. Pringgading 13, Semarang, <u>INDONESIA</u> .
28	Line, Frank J (Dr.) Seattle Pacific College	702 W. Etruria St, Seattle, Washington, <u>USA 98119</u> .
29	Living Books For All	P.O. Box 513, Manila, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
30	Lutheran Church in Malaysia	P.O. Box 1068, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, <u>MALAYSIA</u> .
31	Lutheran Church in the Philippines	P.O. Box 507, Manila, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
32	Malaysia Evening Bible School	P.O. Box 58, Petaling Jaya, Selangor, <u>MALAYSIA</u> .
33	Maurer, Minde (Miss)	Box 149, Columbia Bible College, Columbia, S. Carolina 29203, <u>USA</u> .
34	Melbourne Bible Institute	P.O. Box 21, Armadale, Vic.3143, <u>AUSTRALIA</u> .
35	Missionhaus Bibelschule Wiedenest	Missionshilfe E.V., 5275, Bergneustadt 2, Wiedenest, <u>W. GERMANY</u> .
36	Overseas Christian Fellowship (Adelaide)	c/o Mr Thomas Lee, Adelaide Bible Institute, Victor Harbour, S. Australia 5211.
37	Overseas Crusade	265 Lytton Ave, Palo Alto, Calif. 94301, <u>USA</u> .
38	OMS International Inc.	P.O. Box a, Greenwood, Indiana 46142, <u>USA</u> .
39	Pierson Memorial Bible Seminary	892 Ka-Shinmoon-No, Chongro-Ku, Seoul, <u>KOREA</u> .
40	Philippine Baptist Theological Seminary	P.O. Box 7, Baguio City, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
41	South East Asia Bible College	P.O. Box 74, Malang, <u>INDONESIA</u> .
42	Taiwan Conservative Baptist Theological College	P.O. Box 3, Hsi-Lo, Taiwan 648, ROC.
43	Tokyo Christian College	8453 Yoko Kunitachi, Tokyo, <u>JAPAN</u> .
44	TEE-Taiwan	P.O. Box 165, Taichung, <u>TAIWAN 400</u> .
45	United World Mission	Box 8000, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33738, <u>USA</u> .
46	Vietnam Theological Institute	P.O. Box 73, Nha Trang, S. <u>VIETNAM</u> .
47	Weld, Wayne C (Mr.)	EXTENSION. Apartado Aereo 3041 Medellin, <u>COLOMBIA</u>
48	Wesleyan Bible College	Rosales, Pangasinan, B-731, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
49	Windsor, Raymond (Dr.) BMMF	2, Commissioner Lane, Delhi 6, <u>INDIA</u> .
50	Ian W, Minto (Rev) ABMS	c/o M.A.F, Kotak Pos 10, Kupang, N.T.T. <u>INDONESIA</u> .



NO	NAME	ADDRESS
51	Seoul Theological Seminary	Box 71 Sudaimoon P.O. Seoul, <u>KOREA</u>
52	Olley, John (Dr)	c/o Australian Baptist Missionary Society, P.O. Box 356, Haymarket, NSW 2000 <u>AUSTRALIA</u> .
53	General Baptist Bible College	P.O. Box 345, Davao City, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
54	Reformed Institute of Theology	P.O. Box 327, Bacolod City, <u>PHILIPPINES</u> .
55	Moses, B R (Rev)	c/o Ramapatnam Baptist Theological Seminary, Ramapatnam, Ongole District Andhra Pradesh, <u>SOUTH INDIA</u> .



## The All-India Evangelical Research Centre

### Introduction:

The second Asia Evangelical Consultation on Theological Education June 8 to 12, 1971 at Singapore appointed a board of eight Asian theological leaders with a view to establishing the Centre for Advanced Theological Studies in Asia. The board which is responsible to the Theological Assistance Programme-Asia (TAP-Asia) is having its first full meeting in Seoul, Korea April 4 to 6, 1972. The Singapore Consultation anticipated establishing all-Asia centres in Seoul, Korea, India (Yeotmal or Bangalore) and Hong Kong and/or Singapore, each with its own governing board. On this recommendation, plans to develop an all-India Evangelical Research Centre have been initiated.

### Urgent need for the Centre:

Developments in Asia within the last two years have made it imperative for evangelicals to cooperate in an Asia wide programme for the maintenance of the historical Biblical evangelical faith and with a view to our Lord's great commission to evangelise the world and to establish the church.

Recent developments in Asia include:

1. The North-east Asia Theological Association of the EACC January 1972 gave top priority towards establishing a post-graduate level theological centre in the Far East.
2. The association of theological schools of South-east Asia of the EACC February 1972 discussed the expansion of their existing post-graduate programme and decided to launch a new doctoral programme in South-east Asia in co-operation with western seminaries.
3. The Lutheran World Federation (the world's largest Protestant confessional body) are proposing an Asian Centre for Advanced Study with sub-centres in several Asian countries and a massive budget of one million dollars.
4. The American Southern Baptist Mission are now establishing an advanced graduate Baptist theological school in Asia at the Master's level with several centres.
5. Chinese Evangelical Theological Leaders, January 1972 at Hong Kong agreed to establish three Chinese research centres respectively in Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore.

### Comments:

The EACC project will be strongly liberal since liberals almost completely dominate graduate theological training and research programmes. The Lutheran World Federation Centre will generally share the modern ecumenical outlook. The Southern Baptist Programme is evangelical but runs strictly on Southern Baptist lines with a minimum of cooperation from other groups.

The evangelical Chinese programme will be developed in the closest cooperation with TAP-Asia but will be culturally and linguistically related to the Chinese community spread around Asia.

With the ecumenical graduate, research and publishing programme now centering in Bangalore, it is imperative that a coordinated evangelical programme be developed. The logical centre for this at this point is Yeotmal.

The India programme will be directly related to the needs of India with its 550 million people, to Ceylon and with the development of Islamic and Islamic programme, Indonesia and West Asia.

It is hoped that the programme will benefit East Africa as the steady stream of Africans coming to India including Yeotmal for higher studies indicates.

The Cluster concept in theological education:

We recommend the development of a "cluster" of evangelical institutions at Yeotmal whose programmes will be distinctive but whose administration will be closely coordinated to avoid overlap and to reduce expenses. Such a cluster will have far wider financial appeal than any one institution. The cluster in Yeotmal as now envisaged includes:

1. Union Biblical Seminary with B.Th and B.D. programmes in English. *40 B.D. students*
2. A graduate M.Th programme as an integral development of UBS. M.Th in Biblical studies to begin 1973, Missions in 1974 and theology possibly in 1975.
3. An evangelical research centre (See below)
4. An institute for Church growth beginning 1973 and modelled on the School of Missions, Fuller Seminary, U.S.A. The details of the Institute and its relation to UBS and to the Research Centre have still to be worked out.
5. An evangelical centre for communication (See below)

The All-India Evangelical Research Centre:

Aims and objects of the Centre:

1. To provide facilities for serious in-depth study in any field of the theological discipline for any length of time with a minimum of one month.
2. To encourage creative theological thinking in relating the Christian faith to Asian thought and culture.
3. To publish the most needed evangelical literature in the form of books, monographs and articles.
4. To sponsor seminars on an all-India basis on subjects crucial to evangelical witness. A suggested theme for the first seminar of the research centre is "Communicating the Gospel to Hindu people".

The Research Centre will be open to pastors, Christian workers and laymen competent to undertake serious research. The centre will not award any degrees or diplomas but will require that all its researchers published through books, monographs or series of articles the fruits of their research. The papers and findings of the seminars will also be available for publication.

Administration Structure:

The centre will have its own all-India board. The first meeting is called for 20th March 1972. The following organisations have been invited to form the initial governing board:

1. All India Bodies: The Evangelical Fellowship of India, the Evangelical Literature Fellowship of India, the Christian Education of Evangelical Fellowship of India, the Evangelical Theological Societies, the Union of Evangelical Students of India.



2. Institutions: Union Biblical Seminary, Yeotmal; South India Biblical Seminary, Mangarot; Southern Asia Bible College, Bangalore; Allahabad Bible Seminary, Allahabad; Hindustan Bible Institute, Madras.
3. Evangelical publishing houses: Masihi Sahitya Sanshta, New Delhi; Gospel Literature Society, Bombay; Evangelical Literature Society, Madras; Evangelical Literature Depot, Calcutta; Good New Literature Centre, Secunderabad.

The response from these organisations has been overwhelming in favour of the centre and we anticipate most will join the board on the approval of their governing councils. The managing board will draw up its own constitution and administrative structure. The E.F.I. Executive has officially resolved to encourage such evangelical bodies to jointly sponsor the Centre.

Staff:

The staff will include:

1. A Director
2. A Librarian-cum-Secretary
3. Tutorial assistance from UBS faculty as needed
4. Short-term visiting staff from other evangelical theological colleges in India.
5. Visiting staff from other parts of Asia and abroad.

Library:

The centre will develop its own library which will be a part of the UBS library.

The centre will give priority to developing the archives of the history of evangelical churches, missions and organisations in India. Significant articles in symposiums and journals will be catalogued.

Relationship to Union Biblical Seminary, Yeotmal.

The centre will be developed in cooperation with the Union Biblical Seminary, Yeotmal. The executive committee of the Board of governors of UBS, November 1971 RESOLVED to recommend to the Board that the Centre be established in Yeotmal; that Mr. B.J. Nicholls be permitted to serve on a part-time basis as the Director of the Centre provided he maintains at least a half teaching load at the Seminary; that a bungalow on the UBS campus be set aside temporarily for use of the research centre; that in all matters related to the UBS programme and facilities, the action of the managing board of the centre be cleared with the Seminary. The question of the centre's relationship to UBS will be reviewed every other year or when deemed necessary by the UBS Board of Governors. UBS will make available one married quarters and limited single accommodation in the hostels. If the centre expands its ministry, it will be essential for it to invest in additional housing. In case Union Biblical Seminary decides to re-locate to an urban centre, the Research Centre will transfer with it or alternatively re-locate in Bangalore or a more suitable location.

Relationship to TAP-Asia:

The Centre shall be a member centre of the Asian Centre for Advanced Theological Study, whose board shall be adequately represented on the managing board of the centre.

Finance:

A suggested initial annual budget; librarian-cum-secretary salary Rs.3,500. Office expenses Rs.2,000. Seminars Rs.2000. Scholarships for researchers Rs.5000. Subsidy for publication Rs.3000. Library books (initial grant) Rs.75,000. Total=Rs.95,500. = <sup>R7</sup>Rs.14,000

Sources of Income:

1. TAF-Asia
2. Foundations
3. Individual donors
4. Theological Education Fund
5. Fees from research students

Opening of the Research Centre:

The Centre will begin functioning July 1972 with 3 students. Mr. George David will spend one year in research on "Group Dynamics and Religious Change in Hindu Society" with a view to establishing patterns for effective evangelism and church growth. He is undertaking this research in conjunction with Daystar Communications (Dr. Donald K. Smith, Rhodesia, East Africa).

Mr. Mathew Paul graduating B.D. from Yeotmal March 1972 will continue at Yeotmal for a minimum period of 6 months in intensive study of Greek and Hebrew language and exegesis with a view to Bible translation and evangelistic work among tribal people in North India.

Mr. David Muir of St. John's Theological College, Nottingham (a leading evangelical Anglican Seminary in U.K) will be in Yeotmal for a minimum of one year as administrator, assisting Mr. B.J. Nicholls in the TAP programme and at the same time registered as a research student in a field and subject yet to be decided. Adequate scholarship funds are available for the first two and it is anticipated that the third will be sponsored by TAP in conjunction with a missionary society, (BIMF). The existing faculty of the Union Biblical Seminary will assist in the tutorial guidance for these research students.

The Evangelical Centre for Communications:

As part of a long term plan, it will be desirable that the Centre for Communications be an extension of the Research Centre and the Institute of Church growth then it be an independent centre. The evangelical publishing houses will be related to the centre. The Communication Centre may develop in four areas:

1. The theory and practice of communication in the Asian context. This might be developed in cooperation with Daystar Communications with periodic seminars, and visiting lectures.
2. Literature. Expanding the scope beyond theological literature to more popular forms of evangelistic, devotional and apologetic literature. The holding of seminars and workshops for Christian writing in cooperation with Khristya Lekhan Sanstha.
3. Radio Script writing and production, in conjunction with FEBC. Yeotmal has one of the best equipped radio studios now cooperating in the FEBC network in India. UBS Yeotmal at present produces two programmes a week.
4. Films and TV. In conjunction with the mass communications consortium, Singapore, a project involving several evangelical missions and organisations.

Staff:

The Centre for Communications would need its own Director and specialised personnel in each field.

Finance:

The Centre would need to be financed with help from foundations, individuals, missions, TAF and other organisations.

S.P. ATHYAL  
B.J. NICHOLLS  
Yeotmal, 17.3.'72.